

ADVERTISE!

The Best Medium for
Advertising
in the Colony is
THE 'CHINA MAIL.'

THE POPULAR AND LEADING PAPER.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1900.

日十初月九年子庚

PRICE, \$2.50 Per Month.

Business Notices.

No. 11,745.

號一月一十年百九千一英

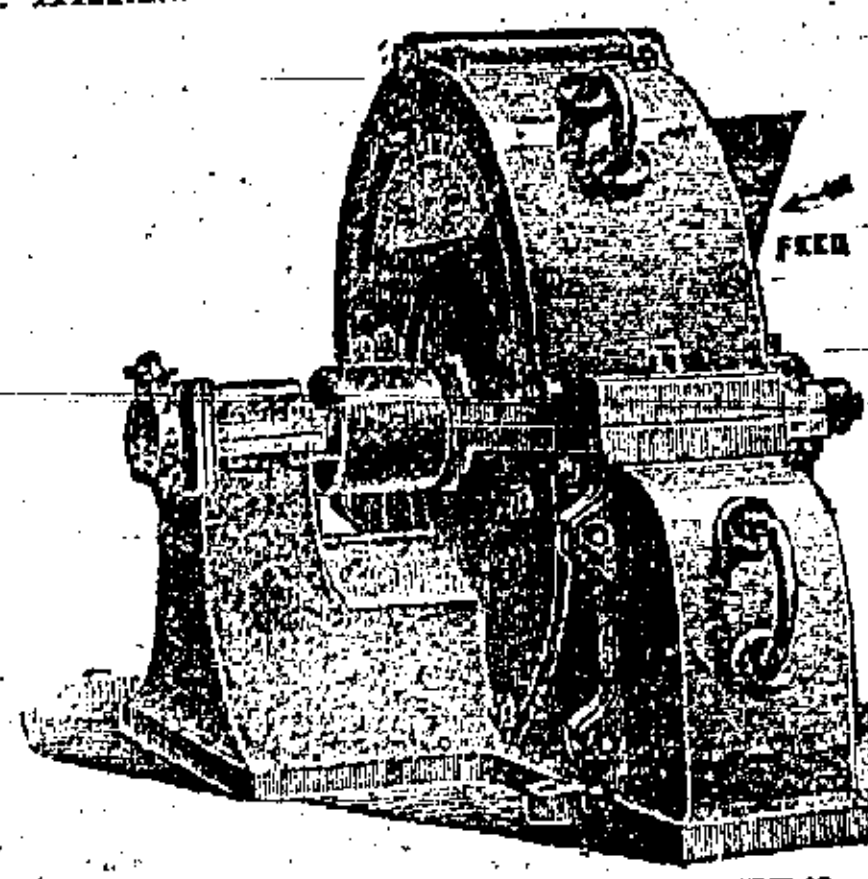
Business Notices.

W. S. BAILEY & Co.,

Engineers and General Merchants.

SOLE AGENTS FOR
THE PULSOMETER ENGINEERING Co., Ltd.
THE LINDE REFRIGERATION Co., Ltd.
J. HARRISON CARTER'S DISINTEGRATORS.

MECHAN & SON'S SHIP'S TELEGRAPHS.
THE UNITED STATES METALLIC PACKING Co.
HIGHGATE'S "OCEAN" ENGINE OIL.



STEAM and HAND PUMPS,
DRILLING MACHINES.
Weston's CHAIN BLOCKS,
SHIP'S TELEGRAPHS.
6", 7", and 8" LATHES in Stock
Ready for immediate delivery.

THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR W. S. BAILEY & Co.
ENGINEERING AND SHIPBUILDING WORKS.

Peak Hotel.

CITY OFFICE,
7, DUBDELL STREET.
HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN.

PUNNETT'S GAP, THE PEAK,
near the TRAM TERMINUS. Telephone 56.
For Terms,
Apply to the MANAGER. 741

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.
"GLENWOOD,"
21 CAINE ROAD, near the Italian Convent.
COMFORTABLE FURNISHED ROOMS, Single
or in Suite.
Mrs. GILLANDERS.
Hongkong, October 2, 1900. 2040

FURNISHED ROOM, (with Board),
WANTED, by Young Gentleman.
Apply, stating Terms, to "K," China
Mail Office.
Hongkong, October 24, 1900. 2182

HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY,
LIMITED.
NEW ISSUE SHARES.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby notified
that the SECOND CALL of \$3.00
(THREE DOLLARS) per SHARE has
been made and is PAYABLE at the
Company's Office, No. 4, Queen's Buildings,
on or before 1st November, 1900.
Shareholders are requested when paying
the above-mentioned Call to send to the
Company's Agents their provisional Share
certificates for endorsement.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.
Hongkong, September 29, 1900. 2019

THE IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.
NOTICE.

WHEREAS THE IMPERIAL BANK
OF CHINA'S PREMISES in
PERU have been DESTROYED by the
Ruin and the following UNISSUED
NOTES expressed on the face thereof to be
Payable at its Office in Peking in CHINESE
PING TSU YIN Currency, have been
STOLEN therefrom:

100,000 Notes of 5 Maco each.
Nos. 9 01 to 100,000.
100,000 Notes of 1 Tael each.
Nos. 0001 to 100,000.
2,000 Notes of 5 Tael each.
Nos. 0001 to 20,000.
10,000 Notes of 10 Tael each.
Nos. 0001 to 10,000.

The Public are hereby cautioned against
purchasing or dealing in any way with such
Notes as the Bank accepts no liability for the
same.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
For the IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA,
A. W. MAITLAND,
Acting Chief Manager.
Hongkong, September 20, 1900. 1943

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debts contracted by the Officers or Crew of the
following Vessels, during their stay in
Hongkong Harbour:

B. F. PACKARD, American ship, Captain
Allen, - Order.
BENJAMIN SEWELL, American ship, Capt.
A. H. Sewall, - Order.
DUNDEE, British ship, Capt. Homing,
- Standard Oil Co.
HAWKWOOD, British barque, Capt. A. B.
Goldwell, - Standard Oil Co.
PACIFIC, British barque, 768, Capt.
Munro, - Siemens & Co.

Robinson PIANO Co.

Are introducing TWO ORIGINAL DESIGNS of their well-known PIANOS
"Made in Hongkong," and as they are gradually increasing their staff of workmen
and have always from Fifteen to Twenty Pianos in course of construction, they can
now guarantee completion of orders within a few days. Samples can be inspected
at our Show Rooms.

THE
VICTORIA DISPENSARY.
DAKIN'S ANISEED & LICORICE COUGH BALSAM.
For the Relief of all CATARRHAL COMPLAINTS, such as COUGHS, COLDS,
HOARSENESS, and SORENESS of the CHEST.
Price 50 Cents and \$1.

CRUICKSHANK'S COUGH BALSAM.
A VALUABLE REMEDY FOR INFLUENZA, COLDS, BRONCHITIS, ASTHMA, and all Diseases
of the CHEST and LUNGS. Price \$1 per Bottle.
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

ORGAN RECITAL,
UNION CHURCH,
ON
MONDAY, 5th November, 1900, at
5.45 p.m.
BY
MR. GEORGE GRIMBLE.

1. Grand Offertoire in G.
Major, - LeFebvre Wely.
2. Tenor Solo - "Agnes"
Three, have I sinners... Bach.
Mr. E. Minow.
3. (a) Andante in G... Patiste.
(b) Andantino in D Flat, Lemare.
4. Soprano Duett & Chorus.
I waited for the Lord, Mendelssohn.
Mesdames Lowson and Moore, and Chorus.
5. Psalm in D Major... Berthold-Town.
6. Soprano Solo... "Lord at
all times" (from "Lauda
Sion") Mrs. MURPHY.
7. March Triumphant... Guilman.
8. Variations on Psalm
Tune "Windsor" Sir G. Macfarlane.
Hongkong, October 30, 1900. 2209

THE HONGKONG COTTON SPIN-
NING, WEAVING AND DYEING
COMPANY, LIMITED.

THEIR having been practically no re-
sponse to the invitation to Share-
holders, circulated and published on 27th
September, to apply for Preference Shares,
Notice is hereby given that an EXTRA-
ORDINARY MEETING of the SHARE-
HOLDERS in above Company will be held
at the Office of the General Managers on
SATURDAY, November 10th, at Noon,
for the purpose of considering the financial
position of the Company.
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, October 25, 1900. 2188

'KIRIN.'
A Delicate
Lager.

THE CELEBRATED BEER OF
JAPAN.

QUARTS, \$2.80 per dozen.
PINTS, \$1.75 do.

W. HUTTON POTTS,
Sole Agent for Hongkong.

榮 CHEE WING, 致
25 & 29, LEE YUEN STREET (WEST),
HONGKONG.
DEALER IN
All Sorts of COPPER, BRASS, STEEL,
IRON WARE, &c.
Suitable for
SHOPS, ENGINEERS and HOUSE BUILDERS.
Hongkong, May 29, 1900. 1227

NOTICE
MRS. POWELL will be AT HOME
at the "PENNY CROISSANT," 11, M.
NAVAL YARD, on all First and Third
WEDNESDAYS.
Hongkong, October 30, 1900. 2212

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF
CANTON, LIMITED.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

A DIVIDEND of \$20 per SHARE for
the year 1899, equivalent to 4 1/2%
on the Paid-up Capital of \$80 per SHARE,
has been DECLARED.
SHAREHOLDERS will be issued on the 12th
October.
By Order of the Board,
W. J. SAUNDERS,
Secretary.
Hongkong, October 11, 1900. 2101

JACK A YOUNG & Co.,
Nos. 70 and 78, Des Voeux Road,
(Old Praya Central).

NOTICE is hereby given that WING
KIT and A. TEE, are no longer
connected with the above Firm, both
having been Dismissed as Partners. On and
after the 22nd September instant, we shall
not be RESPONSIBLE for their Liability
or their Dealings, Etc., Etc.
Customers are respectfully requested
henceforth to communicate direct with this
Firm, or through our Assistants who are
authorised to go on board Vessels for
Orders for Gear, Etc., Etc.

JACK A YOUNG & Co.,
LUK CHEUK MAN, Manager.
Hongkong, September 22, 1900. 1972

MINERAL
ASSAYS & ANALYSES.

THE YANKEE VARIETY SYNDICATE, Ltd.,
having its own well-equipped Labor-
atory, is prepared in order to assist in the
Mineral Development of China, to do Assay
work of all descriptions. Quantitative
Analyses, and to classify minerals for Mine
owners and others.
Mines as well as Minerals of Economic
value purchased and consultations arranged
by appointment.
Terms moderate.

Address: - THE LABORATORY,
49, Beach Road.
Cable Address: - YANKEE, Shanghai.
13th August, 1900. 1750

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED,

4, PRAYA CENTRAL.
(NEAR THE ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE).

PACKING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
BOILER COMPOSITION,
ENGINE AND OTHER OILS,
ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK.
ALL ARTICLES OF FIRST-CLASS QUALITY.

BRADLEY & Co., Managers.
JOHN BROWNHILL, Superintendent.

WINTER SEASON.
LATEST LONDON FASHIONS.
NEWEST AND BEST MATERIALS.

Tailoring Dep. - Dress Suits, from ... \$35.
Tweed Lounge Suits, from ... \$35.
Nonpareil Jacket Suits, from ... \$35.
Scotch Tweed Suits, for Traveling, from ... \$50.
Outfitting Dep. - Hats - Black and Colored, in either Hard or Soft Shapes.
Boots - Football, Shooting, Walking, and Dress.
Shoes - Patent Leather, Court, and Oxford.
Hosiery and UNDERWEAR.

Lane, Crawford & Co.

G. H. MUMM & CO'S
EXTRA DRY CHAMPAGNE,
Agents: SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
For Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, PROVIDED WITH EVERY COMFORT.
NEWLY-FURNISHED ROOMS.
TWO ELEVATORS.
NEW REFRIGERATING PLANT.
BEST QUALITY LIQUORS & PROVISIONS.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S

P. & O.
SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD
HIGHLAND WHISKY.
FERGUSON'S
SPECIAL CREAM
BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.
These are the finest productions of Scotland,
devoid absolutely of all deleterious matter.
THE CREME DE LA CREME OF
WHISKIES.
PURE AND MILD.
Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

THE PHARMACY,

10 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

ENGLISH and FOREIGN PATENT MEDICINES. Prescriptions carefully
dispensed by a qualified CHEMIST. Special attention to FRENCH and Other
FOREIGN FORMULAE.

SOMERVILLE'S 'EXPORT AND 'GLENDOUR' WHISKIES.
PORTSOY HIGHLAND WHISKY (PURE MALT).
MANILA CIGARS.
Manager, RICHARD PLINT.

MUSIO LESSONS.
MR. EARL DAVENPORT, A. Mus. L.C.M.,
receives Pupils for advanced PIANO-
FORTE PLAYING, HARMONY, and COMPOS-
ITION.
Teacher for Examination.
For Terms, Etc. Apply, at
The Robinson Piano Co.,
or at
Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
Hongkong, September 1, 1900. 1831

ZETLAND LODGE,
No. 625, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above
LODGE will be held in the "FIRE-
MASON'S HALL," Desford Street, THIS
EVENING, the 1st November, at 8.30
for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren
are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, November 1, 1900. 2193

CHOCOLATES!

CHOCOLATES!!
CHOCOLATES!!!

JUST ARRIVED FROM ENGLAND A LARGE ASSORTMENT
OF CADBURY'S PURE CHOCOLATES AND
CONFECTIONARY.
CAN BE SUPPLIED IN BULK OR FANCY BOXES.

Watkins' Limited,
Chemists, Aerated Water Manufacturers, &c.
63, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LTD.

Portland Cement.
In casks of 375 lbs. net \$5.00 per cask, ex Factory.
In bags of 250 lbs. net \$3.00 per bag, ex Factory.
Factories - HONGKONG AND MACAO.

Glazed Stoneware, Drain Pipes and Fittings, Glazed
Paving Bricks and Tiles, Fire Bricks and Fire Clay.

FIRE CLAY WORKS - DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

For further particulars, apply to
Shewan, Tomes & Co.,
GENERAL AGENTS.

Pianoforte Tuning, Repairing, Etc.

Having increased our Staff efficiently, we are prepared to receive additional Annual
other Tunings, and to guarantee satisfaction. Repairs can also now be undertaken
with confidence, our new assistants being conversant with the needs of Pianos in
a Climate such as Hongkong.

LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.

CHAS. HEIDSIECK'S

CHAMPAGNES:
WHITE SEAL (1893 VINTAGE).
CACHET IMPERIAL (Extra Dry; Gout Americain)

SIEMSEN & CO.,
SOLE AGENTS FOR CHINA AND JAPAN.

W. POWELL & CO.

JUST LANDED.
EX S.S. SUCOTRA.
A large Shipment of
AUTUMN GOODS.
W. POWELL & CO.,
43, Queen's Road Central.

An early inspection is solicited.

POHMEY AND GRENO, See and Extra Sec.
LOUIS ROEDERER, Grand Vin Sec.
BOLLINGER, Vin 1893.
KRUG, Vin 1893.
GIESLER, Extra Superior.
PIER-HEIDSIECK, Vin 1892.
LANSON, Vin 1893.
IRROY CARTE D'OR, Vin 1893.
C. H. DARGONNE Vin 1892.
PAUL DOMMER, Vin 1893.

SOLE AGENTS FOR ABOVE BRANDS,
Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.,
WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

MANILA CIGARS,

ALWAYS ON HAND THE BEST MARKS FROM
'LA INSULAR' AND 'LA PERLA DE ORIENTE' FACTORIES.
J. M. DE ZUNIGA,
No. 9, Queen's Road Central.
Entrance by Ice House Street, (New Victoria Hotel).

PARIS EXHIBITION, 1900.
THE GRAND PRIZE
(HIGHEST AWARD)
For Scotch Whisky
HAS BEEN AWARDED TO
JOHN DEWAR & SONS, LIMITED.
SOLE AGENTS:
H. PRICE & Co.,
11, QUEEN'S ROAD.

TRADE MARK.
YUEN WO
Telephone
No. 138.

MEMOS FOR TO-MORROW.

Shipping.
5 p.m.—*Emerald* leaves for Manila.

General Memoranda.

SATURDAY, November 3.—
Goods per *Indrapura* undelivered after noon this date subject to rent.
SUNDAY, November 4.—
Goods per *Coromandel* not cleared at 4 p.m. subject to rent.
Goods per *Antonia* not cleared at 4 p.m. subject to rent.
MONDAY, November 5.—
Auction of Crown Land situated at Hung Hom, Lo Lung Hang.
3.15 p.m.—Auction of Crown Land situated at Yau-Ma Tei.
5.45 p.m.—Organ Recital, in Union Church.
TUESDAY, November 6.—
Goods per *Changshu* undelivered after this date subject to rent.
SATURDAY, November 10.—
Noon.—Meeting of Shareholders of the Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Co., Ltd., at the Offices of the General Managers.

Temperatures.

(Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Premises, Queen's Road.)

HONGKONG, November 1, 1900.

BAROMETER—9 A.M. 30.11

Do. 1 P.M. 30.05

Do. 4 P.M. 30.04

Thermometer—9 A.M. 77

Do. 1 P.M. 78

Do. 4 P.M. 77

Do. (Wet bulb) 9 A.M. 68

Do. Do. 1 P.M. 68

Do. Do. 4 P.M. 67

Do. Maximum 78

Do. Minimum overnight 75

Opium Quotations.

HONGKONG, November 1, 1900.

Now Patna, cash, 83 1/2

Old Patna, cash, 82 1/2

New Patna, cash, 82 1/2

Old Patna, credit, 800

Allowance, Taka, 830

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The China Mail.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1900.

One of the most unexpected concessions of the Chinese Commissioners in the tentative peace negotiations, is, that the *Wai* should be placed under foreign supervision. The word *Wai*, as many of our readers know, is composed of two Chinese characters, one of which means 'a thousandth part of a tal' and the other 'gold'. It is a tax, originally of one cash per tal on all sales, voluntarily imposed on themselves by the people, among whom it was at first very popular with a view of making up the deficiency of the land tax in China, caused by the Tai Ping and Nien Fu troubles. It was to be set apart for military purposes only—hence its common name 'war-tax'; and was said by the Taung-tai Yamen to be adopted merely as a temporary measure. It is now collected at rates differing in different provinces and at different times. The Chinese Government makes the area of the foreign concessions at the various Treaty ports exempt from the levy of *Wai*. This tax has been a bone of contention between Chinese officials and European merchants, and no small amount of irritation, on both sides has been excited thereby. The transit pass system, stipulated by treaty, arranged that all foreign goods, which entered the interior of China, under this regulation, should be free from further taxation. The *Wai* officials therefore were unable honestly to molest either the producer or the consumer of the goods. When we read that this system is to be handed over to the control of Europeans, we ask will it be possible for them to assume the control over these stations? We may take as a concrete example the North River. Between Canton and Shiu Kwan, which is some two hundred and eighty miles inland, there are at least five of these stations, and if these built at each end of the larger towns be reckoned, there are more. These are situated at Fatsan, San Shui, Lo Pau, Tung Un, and Shiu Kwan. Is it likely that competent Europeans will be found willing to man these inland stations, away from their fellow-countrymen, surrounded by a more or less unfriendly, or even hostile people? Would the remuneration be sufficient to induce reliable men to banish themselves in these places with little chance of being removed to a treaty port, where there is some semblance of European life? Would the income be sufficient to allow of such an expensive organization as this, for men will not live in a small dirty dilapidated Chinese village, evolving in the heat of summer, and shivering in the cold of winter for nothing? It seems to us that it is extremely improbable that men will undertake this voluntary banishment, unless the remuneration is correspondingly great, which would, in all likelihood, swallow up much of the profits.

But even if men would be willing to accept this temporary banishment, where could competent persons be found? It is one thing to keep watch on board a foreign steamer, to seize contraband goods, and to compile statistics at the treaty ports, where the lines are so clearly laid down that it is difficult to diverge from them; it is quite another thing to sit in one of these inland stations. The first qualification for success, and indeed any work, is a good knowledge of both colloquial and literary Chinese. The thousand and one things that are taxed at these stations, are conveyed up and down the river in native boats, and it is difficult to believe that the boatmen could be induced or indeed that they have the ability, to prepare anything like correct bills of lading, even in the Chinese language, and of course all communications would be in this language. That they should be expected to attempt to do this in the English language is quite beside the point. Therefore, for long years to come, and possibly *ad infinitum* those who were responsible for the collection of this dues would have to depend on Chinese assistants, who had acquired a smattering of the English language, and not even a smattering of the elementary morality, which assures that all the silver that passed through their hands must find its way into the central treasure chest. It seems to be an impracticable suggestion which must fail, because the men necessary for its working are not forthcoming, and if they were they would think twice before they consented to accept such posts of isolation.

It is not easy to accept the *Wai* files of this concession, because of all the issues that are involved in it. Such an arrangement would indeed be the handing over of the entire control of China's finances into the hands of foreigners, who would thus practically rule the empire. Moreover the tremendous eruption of opposition which such an act would rouse into activity, on the part of the thousand and one officials and the myriads of underlings, who now control this source of revenue, and illegally enrich themselves thereby, would be something from which any government might shrink. At present these stations furnish a ripe field to be beset and even gleaned by any and every official, from the Viceroy down to a petty clerk. Before a man can be appointed to these lucrative posts, he must be pro-

pared to offer an inducement substantial enough to induce his superior to hand over the prize to him. When he is once possessed he is master of the situation, and can rule as he likes without fear of interference. He can hinder the natural movement of trade to almost any extent, by declining to exert himself, until the angry boatmen are willing to pay almost any demand, in order to secure the bit of magic paper, which proclaims that the Emperor has been satisfied, and that he can once more proceed on his way. There then is a source of income that is capable of yielding unlimited number of dollars, and therefore, one that is eagerly sought after by the crowds of 'expectant mandarins' who are bound to uphold this institution at all costs and with every fibre of their body. To sweep them all on one side and place, at these stations, in their stead, a large body of foreigners, would only drive into the arms of the large body of malcontents now found in China, and they would be able to shake the empire, and probably overturn the present tottering dynasty. Nay, not only would the grasping official be shorn of his warm fleece, but the necessary income for the carrying on of the provincial government would then flow into the treasure chests of the capital.

It would no doubt sound well, when the Emperor promulgated his new scale of payments, to his loyal local mandarins, to be forwarded regularly each month, in carefully weighed packets, lest there should be some lack. But the local officials are old birds, and not easily caught with chaff; for they know, from long experience, that once the money went northwards, it would never return, and the local officials would be left to govern the people without sufficient funds. It is difficult to believe that the Chinese are in earnest when they offer this concession, for they must know the immense force of opposition that will be hurled against it, with a momentum that would be practically irresistible. How the *Wai* can be interfered with without great loss of income we are unable to see. Many excuses which now are simply transferred from one inland town to another, if this system were swept away, would then escape taxation altogether. If there were simply the maritime customs, to be controlled as now at the Treaty ports, then only these commodities which are imported and exported therein, would come under review, and the loss to the Emperor would be correspondingly great—there would indeed be a loss, when, as now, the government stands in need of a substantial gain. Of course, this loss might be partially covered, if an additional number of ports, and all the larger inland cities of China, were opened to trade. But the number of maritime and riverine ports is not unlimited, and many of the most important ones are already opened. It is a question of bridling with difficulties, and considerable skill will be needed, if the entire fiscal system of China is to come under review, with a view to readjustment and expansion. On the other hand, over one who has an elementary knowledge of the working of the *Wai*, and the constant source of irritation it is to those who groan under its oppressive burdens, know that the people would rejoice greatly, if it were removed altogether. To-day few things give the boatmen more keen delight, than to be able to snap their fingers at the officials at these stations, and to pay off the old score of snubs and squeezes which each captain has on his balance sheet against them. It is not an uncommon thing to see scores of boats anchored to wait on the will of the officials, and much time and money are wasted which is bitterly resented. The people, we are told, were willing to assume this burden, at the close of the Tai Ping rebellion; it is quite certain that they would be far more willing to throw it off. How this is to be done we cannot well see, and we shall wait with some interest the development of events, and their consequences.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Typhoon Warning.

Mr. Houssevelde, U.S. Consul General, conveys information that he has received the following cable:—

Manila, Observatory, Nov. 1, 1 o'clock a.m.

The typhoon in the Pacific probably E.S.E. of Manila seems approaching South Luzon.

Manila Observatory, Nov. 1, 10 o'clock a.m.

The typhoon towards S.E. of Manila between 13th and 14th parallels is moving quickly to West or W.N.W.

The C.P.R. Earnings.

The first annual statement ever issued by the Canadian Pacific Railway was received by the shareholders on October 1.

Although the first six months of the year is always the poorest half of the year with the company, its showing in the statement issued was regarded as excellent.

The figures show that the net earnings have been at the rate of about 7 per cent on the stock, which will be increased still further if the second half of the year maintains its usual promise.

A GREAT MEDICINE.

I have used Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy and find it to be a great medicine, says Mr. E. S. Phillips of Potomac, Ark. 'I cured me of bloody flux. I cannot speak too highly of it. This remedy always was the good opinion, if not praise, of those who use it. The quick cure which it effects even in the most severe cases make it a favorite remedy. For sale by all Dealers, Warren & Co., General Agents.'

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Notes by the Way.

The Legislative Council meets on Monday afternoon at three o'clock.

The English Mail of the 29th September was delivered in London on the 29th October.

The Annual Sale of Work for the C.M.S. Baxter Mission Schools, will be held in the City Hall on Tuesday next, 6th November, from 3 to 6 o'clock.

The Field Controller, Hongkong, has received instructions to levy income-tax on the Indian scale on the pay of officers of the Indian Army employed with the China Expeditionary Force.

It is rumored that an order has been issued from Washington to the effect that those of the Volunteer organizations who so desire, may receive their discharges in the Philippines instead of returning to the United States with their respective regiments.

A meeting of the Victoria Precinctory and Priory was held last night, when Sir Knight G. J. B. Sayce was elected Eminent Precinctory, and Sir Knight B. D. Barker, Treasurer, for the ensuing year. Brother J. Maxwell was elected Tyler.

The Priory Reclamation Award Case, in which Mr. Thomas Howard and Mr. M. J. D. Stephens are the plaintiffs, and the Hon. Attorney General, the defendant, occupied the attention of His Lordship the Chief Justice for a short time this morning, and was then adjourned; judgment being reserved.

On Tuesday, two bodies were found floating in the harbour. One body was that of a private in the Royal Horse Artillery, dressed in full regimentals. The body was in an advanced stage of decomposition. The Police had not received any report as to any Artilleryman being missing. The other corpse was that of a Chinaman.

A Dinner Delightful.

On the evening of 23rd October, Lieutenant Commander John C. Fremont, Commandant of the Cavite Navy Yard, and Paymaster H. R. Sullivan tendered what a Manila paper styles 'a dinner delightful' at the palace in Cayte in honour of Consul-General and Mrs. Wildman, of Hongkong. A large number of Manila guests were present.

In Hongkong it is Different.

A Chinaman who has some acquaintance with American law sought to inform a Chinese constable, this morning, of the glorious principles of the land of liberty. The constable who had gone on board the steamer *Hoi Chu* to search for arms did not approve of the tuition, and arrested the tutor. It appears that defendant called out to the constable, 'Those people with more than \$100 in their boxes need not be searched.' At the Magistrate's to-day, Mr. Hallifax fined the defendant \$5, with the alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment with hard labour, for unlawfully hindering and obstructing the policeman in the performance of his duty.

The Yellow Dragon.

The October number of the *Yellow Dragon* is interesting for the variety of its contents. There are articles in English, Portuguese and Chinese, and we would not be surprised to learn that there are many among the readers of this magazine whose linguistic attainments enable them to understand every line of the text. It is gratifying to notice that a request mentioned in the previous number met the eye of the Director of Public Works, and the boys are now in possession of a flagpost. They now require a flag. A gentle reminder is given General Gescoigne regarding the formation of a Cadet Corps, which is awaiting the decision of the military authorities.

Theft from the Empress.

Harry Sander Laxden, a quarter-master on the *Empress of India*, evidently had dreams of starting an Ordnance store on his own account when he left the ship on 24th October. This ambitious sailorman was in charge of the firearms on board, and carried off 1 revolver, 1 pair of hand-cuffs, 1 box of ammunition, 2 flags, 3 knives, 1 fork and 5 spoons, total value \$93. A pair of binoculars, valued at \$47, belonging to Mr. William Robinson, the Chief Officer, also struck his fancy, and were included in the spoil. On shore his thieving proclivities found their vent in the acquisition of a cat and a shirt, the property of E. R. Horton, a clerk with the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., who was living in a house at No. 26 Backley Street, where the quarter-master had taken up his temporary abode. The disappearance of these several articles led to reports being made to the Police, and Sergeant Courlay made acquaintance with Laxden as he was carrying his boxes to a sampan to take them on board. At the Magistrate's to-day, the defendant told Mr. Hallifax that he did not know why he took the articles, and having taken them he had not the means to return them. In the three charges he was sentenced to one month, two months and three months' hard labour, consecutively.

TELEGRAMS.

[CHINA MAIL'S SPECIAL SERVICE.]

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Resignation of Lord Salisbury.

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

LONDON, October 31, 10.40 p.m.

It is announced that the Marquis of Salisbury will resign the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs and will be succeeded in that appointment by the Marquis of Lansdowne.

Lord Salisbury was first of all appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in 1878, when the Earl of Derby resigned the office, and he had held the appointment in every successive Conservative Administration.

The Marquis of Lansdowne, G.C.M.G., G.M.S.I., G.M.B., was Viceroy of India from 1888 to 1893. Previous to that Lord Lansdowne was Governor-General of Canada, the chief events transpiring during his term of office being the suppression of Riel's Rebellion in the North West, the execution of the Canadian Pacific Railway and the satisfactory settlement of the long-standing controversy concerning the North American Fisheries.

[REUTERS' SERVICE.]

BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA.

LONDON, 30th October.

General Knickerbocker, Commandant De Wet on the 27th inst., at Rensburg Drift.

The Boers lost considerably, leaving two guns. De Wet escaped in the darkness, which prevented pursuit.

OBITUARY.

LONDON, 30th October.

The death is announced of Prince Christian Victor at Pretoria of cardiac fever.

INAUGURATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

The strength of the home forces at the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth has been fixed at 1,000, with four guns.

ARRIVAL OF THE C. I. V. IN LONDON.

The march of the City Imperial Volunteers through London was the occasion of immense enthusiasm, though marred by numerous accidents, owing to the stupendous crowds.

ROWDYISM IN THE STREETS OF LONDON.

Scandalous scenes have occurred in the streets of London in the evenings. Mobs of rowdies have been terrorizing sight-seers and roughly handling women, unchoked. The papers are full of indignant protests and urge strong measures to prevent the repetition of such occurrences on the return of Lord Roberts and the visit of the Colonials.

CANTON NOTES.

THE EXPLOSION—ADDITIONAL DETAILS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

CANTON, October 31.

Two more men were arrested yesterday in connection with the attempt to blow up the Acting Viceroy's yamen. A quantity of explosives are said to have been unearthed near the house where the operations of the conspirators were carried on.

FIRE IN THE CITY.

On Tuesday afternoon there were several fires in the city, but they were speedily extinguished. Nearly opposite the island known as Dutch Folly, on the Honan side of the river, are a large number of wooden houses built on piles. A fire broke out in one of these houses yesterday afternoon, and resulted in the destruction of them all.

The Peking Railway.

On the 14th ult. the Peking correspondent of the *P. & T. Times* writes:—The railway station and line at Machiao have been taken over from the Russians by the British. Thousands of sleepers are being grafted on Peking for the reconstruction of the section of the line undertaken by the British Force. Now that the British, German, and Japanese are actively employed on the re-building of the line from Lo-fan to Machiao, everything points to the railway being re-opened to Peking in about three weeks time.

The Tongshan Mines.

The *N. C. Daily News* Tientsin correspondent writes on the 29th ult.:—I am informed that the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, of which Mr. Chang Yuen-mei is Director-General, is resuming charge of the Tongshan mines, thanks to the influence of Mr. Deering with the Russian authorities, but that a steady and quick coal supply will be secured for the community in a month.

THE NAVAL YARD EXTENSION.

That the Naval Yard extension is progressing may not be apparent to everyone, not even to those who have been disturbed in their slumbers by the pile-drivers. It may not have occurred to many to enquire what is the object of this nightly disturbance, but it may be some consolation to know that the pile-driving at this particular section will be completed in about six months. This making night and labour with the day is to complete the dam for the dock, which is to be a very solid structure lined with granite blocks.

As soon as the piling of the eastern portion of the extension is completed the foreshore will be rapidly filled in. The contractors, Messrs. Pouchard, Lowther and Co., are devoting their energies principally to this portion of the work, and until it is completed very little work can be done at the eastern end. In a work of such magnitude it can readily be realised that the preliminary stages will occupy a very considerable time, and it is difficult for an outsider to mark its progress.

At Ma-tau-kok a large yard is being prepared for the construction of huge blocks of Portland cement to face the large sea-wall. Block-making on a small scale is at present in operation on a site on the Frayn, but the blocks to be constructed at Ma-tau-kok are in some instances to be seven tons in weight. One of the most extensive preliminary works will be the clearing away of all the mud from the area to be covered by the works, in order that the sea-wall may find a solid foundation on the decomposing granitic which forms the ground surface. Messrs. Pouchard, Lowther and Co. have acquired for this work a powerful dredger, and yesterday afternoon a semi-official inauguration and trial of the vessel was held. Commodore Powell and the principal Naval Yard officials, the staff of the Admiralty Works Loan department, the Contractors and staff, Mr. Cooke of the Dock Co., Mr. Newman Munford, Surveyor to Lloyd's, and other gentlemen connected with this important work, were present.

The vessel, which has been renamed the *Canton River*, is a very good example of the most recent practice in dredging building, and her builders, the well-known firm of Fleming and Ferguson of Paisley, place her in their advertisements in engineering papers as the sample of their work. She was fitted out for sea by this firm and completed her voyage from the Clyde to Hongkong in 61 days actual steaming time, arriving in perfect condition.

The trial yesterday consisted in showing the method of working all the various parts of the apparatus. Dredging was carried on for 15 or 20 minutes, and 100 tons put into the hoppers, which have a capacity of 750 tons; the traversing ladder gear which enables dredging to be done so that the boat can cut her own station was run out, and the numerous engines for lifting and lowering the ladder; the powerful winches, the gear for manipulating the hopper doors, etc., were all operated.

